

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new Claim 11 as shown below. The claims, as currently pending in the application, read as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:
 - first communication means for receiving first image data;
 - first accumulating means for accumulating in a memory the first image data received by said first communication means;
 - recording means for recording on a recording sheet the first image data accumulated by said first accumulating means in the memory;
 - reading means for reading an original sheet and obtaining second image data;
 - second communication means for transmitting the second image data obtained by said reading means;
 - transmitting instruction means for instructing reading of the original sheet and transmission of the second image data by said second communication means;
 - a medium conveying mechanism used in common to convey the original sheet read by said reading means and for conveying the recording sheet on which the first image data is recorded by said recording means, wherein said medium conveying mechanism includes an openable medium conveying path; and
 - control means for controlling said image communication apparatus in such a way that in a case where said transmitting instruction means instructs the reading of the

original sheet and transmitting of the second image data while said first communication means receives the first image data and said first accumulating means accumulates the first image data,

wherein said reading means reads the original sheet and obtains the second image data while said first communication means receives the first image data, and before said recording means records the first image data on the recording sheet,

wherein said recording means records the first image data on the recording sheet while said second communication means transmits the second image data,

wherein said control means controls said medium conveying mechanism to automatically switch from conveying the original sheet to conveying the recording sheet after said reading means completes the reading of the original sheet and said first communication means completes the reception of the first image data, and

wherein said control means controls said medium conveying mechanism to automatically switch from conveying the original sheet to conveying the recording sheet by opening the medium conveying path for the recording sheet.

2. (Previously Presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising second accumulating means for accumulating the image read by said reading means in the memory, wherein said control means controls in such a way that said second accumulating means performs a memory accumulating operation of the second image data before said recording means performs recording of the first image data in a case in which said transmitting instruction means issues an instruction for transmitting the second image data when said first communication means receives the

first image data and the first accumulating means performs the memory accumulating of the first image data.

3. (Previously Presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising moving means for moving said reading means to a reading position when said reading means reads the original sheet, and for moving said reading means to a retracted position when the reading of the original sheet is completed.

4. (Previously Presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means controls in such a way that the memory accumulating operation of the first image data by said first accumulating means and the reading of the original sheet and obtaining of the second image data to be transmitted are performed in parallel.

5. (Previously Presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said control means controls in such a way that the memory accumulating operation of the first image data by said first accumulating means and the memory accumulating operation of the second image data by said second accumulating means are performed in parallel.

6. (Previously Presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, after completion of the memory accumulating operation of the first image data by said first accumulating means, the transmitting of the second image

data by said second communication means is started, and after completion of the reading of the original sheet and obtaining of the second image data by said reading means, said recording means operates to record the first image data, and said control means controls in such a way that the transmitting of the second image data and the recording of the first image data are performed in parallel.

7. (Previously Presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, when said transmitting instruction means issues an instruction for transmitting the second image data while a plurality of pages are being recorded, recording of the plurality of pages is temporarily interrupted before completion of recording, and after the completion of the reading of the original sheet by said reading means instructed by said transmitting instruction means and accumulation thereof into said memory by said second accumulating means, recording of the plurality of pages is resumed.

8. (Previously Presented) A control method of an image communication apparatus provided with a medium conveying mechanism used in common to convey an original sheet read by a reading means and for conveying a recording sheet on which first image data is recorded by a recording means, wherein the medium conveying mechanism includes an openable medium conveying path, the control method comprising:

a first communication step for receiving the first image data;

a first accumulating step for accumulating the first image data in a memory;

a recording step for reading the first image data accumulated in the memory and recording the first image data by the recording means;

a reading step for reading the original sheet and obtaining second image data by the reading means;

a second communication step for transmitting the second image data obtained in said reading step;

a transmitting instruction step for instructing reading of the original sheet and transmitting of the second image data; and

a controlling step for controlling in such a way that in a case where performance of said transmitting instruction step instructs the reading of the original sheet and transmitting of the second image data while the first image data is received in said first communication step and accumulated in said first accumulating step,

wherein said reading step is performed to read the original sheet and obtain the second image data while the first image data is received in said first communication step, and before the first image data is recorded on the recording sheet in said recording step,

wherein said recording step is performed to record the first image data on the recording sheet while the second image data is transmitted in said second communication step,

wherein said controlling step controls the medium conveying mechanism to automatically switch from conveying the original sheet to conveying the recording sheet after completion of the reading of the original sheet in said reading step and completion of the reception of the first image data in said first communication step, and

wherein said controlling step controls the medium conveying mechanism to automatically switch from conveying the original sheet to conveying the recording sheet by opening the medium conveying path for the recording sheet.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable memory medium storing a program and readable by a computer in an image communication apparatus provided with a medium conveying mechanism used in common to convey an original sheet read by a reading means and for conveying a recording sheet on which first image data is recorded by a recording means, wherein the medium conveying mechanism includes an openable medium conveying path, the program allowing the computer to execute:

a first communication procedure for receiving the first image data;

a first accumulating procedure for accumulating the first image data in a memory;

a recording procedure for reading the first image data accumulated in the memory and recording the first image data by the recording means;

a reading procedure for reading the original sheet and obtaining second image data by the reading means;

a second communication procedure for transmitting the second image data obtained in said reading procedure;

a transmitting instruction procedure for instructing reading of the original sheet and transmitting of the second image data; and

a controlling procedure for controlling in such a way that in a case where performance of said transmitting instruction procedure instructs the reading of the original sheet and transmitting of the second image data while the first image data is received in said first communication procedure and accumulated in said first accumulating procedure,

wherein said reading procedure is performed to read the original sheet and obtain the second image data while the first image data is received in said first communication procedure, and before the first image data is recorded on the recording sheet in said recording procedure,

wherein said recording procedure is performed to record the first image data on the recording sheet while the second image data is transmitted in said second communication procedure,

wherein said controlling procedure controls the medium conveying mechanism to automatically switch from conveying the original sheet to conveying the recording sheet after completion of the reading of the original sheet in said reading procedure and completion of the reception of the first image data in said first communication procedure, and

wherein said controlling procedure controls the medium conveying mechanism to automatically switch from conveying the original sheet to conveying the recording sheet by opening the medium conveying path for the recording sheet.

11. (New) The image communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the medium conveying mechanism is constructed such that the use of the medium

conveying mechanism in reading the original sheet is exclusive of the use of the medium
conveying mechanism in recording the first image data on the recording sheet.